

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Cancelled).
2. (Original rewritten in independent form) A loudspeaker system ~~in accordance with claim 1~~, comprising,
a first loudspeaker array,
said first loudspeaker array comprising an enclosure having a width and a height and at least six acoustic drivers having radiating surfaces,
each of said acoustic drivers having a diameter less than three inches,
wherein said at least six drivers are positioned in said enclosure in a first substantially straight line, substantially regularly spaced so that the edges of said radiating surfaces are less than two inches apart,
wherein said first array is constructed and arranged to radiate sound in a predetermined frequency range,
wherein said predetermined frequency range is at least six octaves.
3. (Currently Amended) A loudspeaker system ~~in accordance with claim 1~~ further comprising,
a first loudspeaker array,
said first loudspeaker array comprising an enclosure having a width and a height and at least six acoustic drivers having radiating surfaces,
each of said acoustic drivers having a diameter less than three inches,

wherein said at least six drivers are positioned in said enclosure in a first substantially straight line, substantially regularly spaced so that the edges of said radiating surfaces are less than two inches apart,

wherein said first array is constructed and arranged to radiate sound in a predetermined frequency range,

a second loudspeaker array having an enclosure and a plurality of acoustic drivers having radiating surfaces,

each of said drivers having a diameter of less than three inches,

said drivers positioned in said enclosure in a second substantially straight line, regularly spaced less than one inch apart,

wherein said second loudspeaker ~~array device~~ is constructed and arranged to be detachably secured ~~attached~~ to said first loudspeaker ~~array device~~ in a manner that extends said first substantially straight line so that the height of said loudspeaker system is increased and so that the width of said loudspeaker system remains constant.

4. (Original) A loudspeaker system in accordance with claim 3, wherein the ratio of the height of said loudspeaker system to said width is greater than twenty.

5. (Original) A loudspeaker system in accordance with claim 3,
further comprising an attachment device for attaching said first loudspeaker array to said second loudspeaker array.

6. (Original) A loudspeaker system in accordance with claim 3,
further comprising circuitry which provides essentially the same audio signal to all of said acoustical drivers in both of said loudspeaker arrays at all frequencies.

7. (Original) A loudspeaker system in accordance with claim 3, wherein said first loudspeaker array is portable.

8. (Currently Amended) A loudspeaker system in accordance with claim 2 [±], further comprising an electrical circuit which provides essentially the same audio signal to all of said acoustical drivers at all frequencies.

9. (Currently Amended) A loudspeaker system in accordance with claim 2 [±], wherein the ratio of said height to said width is greater than eleven.

10. (Currently Amended) A loudspeaker system in accordance with claim 2 [±] wherein said loudspeaker system radiates sound energy and wherein said loudspeaker system is constructed and arranged to transduce to acoustical energy substantially at least seven watts of electrical energy per square inch of radiating surface.

11. (Original) A loudspeaker system, comprising:
a first portable array module comprising a portable enclosure and at least six acoustic drivers positioned in said enclosure in a substantially straight line;
a second portable array comprising a second portable enclosure and a plurality of acoustic drivers positioned in a substantially straight line; and
an attachment system for attaching said first portable array to said second portable array in a manner so as to extend said substantially straight line.

12. (Currently Amended) A loudspeaker array module, comprising:
a portable enclosure having an attachment system for attaching said module to a second like module; and
at least six acoustic drivers,
each of said acoustic drivers having radiating surface,
each of said acoustic drivers having a diameter less than three inches,

said at least six acoustic drivers positioned in said enclosure in a substantially straight line, regularly spaced so that the edges of said radiating surfaces are less than one inch apart;

said loudspeaker array module constructed and arranged to radiate sound over ~~essentially the full range~~ at least six octaves of the audible frequency spectrum,

whereby when said module is attached to said second like module all said drivers are positioned in said substantially straight line.

13. (Currently Amended) A method for improving the number of electrical watts transduced per unit radiating area of a line array loudspeaker array comprising:

mounting in a substantially straight line a plurality of acoustic drivers, each of said acoustic drivers having a diameter of less than three inches and each of said acoustic drivers having a radiating surface having an edge; and

placing said acoustic drivers in said line so that the edges of radiating surfaces of adjacent acoustic drivers are separated by no greater than one inch,

and radiating acoustical energy from said adjacent acoustic drivers over a frequency range of at least six octaves.

14. (Currently Amended) A loudspeaker system for a live source of sound comprising:

a line array loudspeaker comprising a line array plurality of acoustic drivers,

each of said acoustic drivers having a diameter less than three inches,

said plurality of acoustic drivers positioned in an enclosure in a substantially straight line, regularly spaced less than one inch apart,

said line array being constructed and arranged to be placed in the near vicinity of said live source of sound, facing an audience,

and operating over a frequency range of at least six octaves.

15. (Original) A loudspeaker system in accordance with claim 14, wherein said live source of sound is from the group consisting of a vocalist musical performer and presenting entity.

16. (Original) A loudspeaker system in accordance with claim 15,
wherein said musical performing entity comprises a plurality of performers,
said loudspeaker system comprising a plurality of line arrays,
each of said line arrays having a plurality of acoustic drivers,
each of said acoustic drivers having a diameter less than three inches,
said plurality of acoustic drivers positioned in said enclosure in a substantially
straight line, regularly spaced less than one inch apart,
each of said line arrays being constructed and arranged to be placed in the near
vicinity of one of said plurality of performers.

17. (Original) A loudspeaker system in accordance with claim 14 wherein said live source is an orator.

18. (Original) A loudspeaker system in accordance with claim 14, wherein said line array is constructed and arranged to be placed so that said live source of sound is between said line array and said audience.

19-20 Cancelled.

21. (New) A plurality of first loudspeaker arrays in accordance with claim 2,
a room having a performance area contiguous with a listening area,
said plurality of loudspeaker arrays located at a corresponding plurality of spaced
locations in said performance area each facing said listening area with the associated straight line
substantially vertically oriented,

and a corresponding plurality of electroacoustical transducers located in said
performance area at a corresponding plurality of spaced locations electrically coupled to
respective ones of said loudspeaker arrays and located between the associated loudspeaker array
and said listening area.

22. (New) A method of assembling in a room having a performance area contiguous
with a listening area a plurality of loudspeaker arrays in accordance with claim 2 and a
corresponding plurality of electroacoustical transducers including,

placing said plurality of loudspeaker arrays at a corresponding plurality of spaced
locations in said performance area with each facing said listening area with the associated
straight line substantially vertically oriented,

placing said plurality of electroacoustical transducers in said performance area at
a corresponding plurality of spaced locations between an associated loudspeaker array and said
listening area,

and electrically coupling each of said electroacoustical transducers to an
associated loudspeaker array.

IN THE DESCRIPTION

Please amend the Description as follows:

Please amend the following paragraph beginning on page 10 and ending on page 11 as follows:

Referring to FIG. 6, there is shown a feature of the invention for lengthening the line array loudspeaker. Each of the enclosures 13 of the line array module loudspeakers 12 has in the back a T-shaped channel 30 into which flange 32 fits. Flange 32 is held in place by set screw 34 which may be a thumb screw. Channel 30 may have indentations, stops, or holes to accommodate set screw 34 to prevent slipping. Channel 30 may run the entire length of the enclosure 13, or may be only near the top and bottom of the enclosure 13. Flange 30 may then fit into the channel 30 of another enclosure of another line array module loudspeaker, and may be held in place by a second set screw 34, thereby securely attaching one line array module loudspeaker to another line array module line loudspeaker end to end to create a line array loudspeaker two modules in length. Additional line array module loudspeakers may be ~~attached~~ detachably secured to the end in a similar way, to create a line array loudspeaker several modules in length. In addition to the relatively simple mechanical connection, the fact that each module has the simple electrical connections of FIG. 6, with no filtering or shading circuitry enables simple electrical connections between the signal source and the modules and between the modules. Modularization allows the individual modules to be easily portable, and assembleable in situ. This property makes a line array loudspeaker according to the invention particularly attractive for sound systems for musical performers.